

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION

Tuesday, September 19. 1710.

I Gave you in my last, something of the Original of the Words *Whig* and *Tory*; and a brief Historical Account, how they came to be Applicable to, and espous'd by the several Parties among us — And still, Gentlemen, you that are so out of Love with the Name of *Whig*, you find them even from their very Original, a People Zealous for Liberty, Resolute in withstanding (*Resisting*) Arbitrary Power, Defending Constitution Right, and Blessing God from the Bottom of their Hearts, for the Legal Provisions in that Case made to secure them from Popery — And such they are still.

But says a *High Flying Objector*, in this

Case we can turn the Tables upon you; You put a wrong Construction upon the Thing, and give it a turn of your own — Your Original of a *Whig* may be right — But then you must put it into Words more proper to the Party, and if you will go back to the Original, if you will examine what these *Whigs* were in *Scotland*, you will find them all Rebels, Murderers, Resisters of the Laws, and Raisers of Wars against their Prince — And to see what Titles they deserve, you may find them in the very Acts of Parliament made in *Scotland* against them; in the 11 Act 1st Parliament of Ch. II. in *Scotland*, the Prerogative of the King was

was Establish'd by Law—— And the Recognizing this Prerogative, was appointed like the Sacrament of the Church of *England*, to be a Test for all publick Employments—— That is, this was set up, to keep the *Whigs* out of the Government : In the 6th A^d 3d Parliament *Charles II*, this is Clench'd by an Additional Test, Recognizing the King's Supremacy, and Renouncing the National Covenant.

From this time, the several A^{cts} against *Dissenters (Whigs)* in *Scotland*, are made; as against *Rebels*, their Meetings for Religious Worship, are call'd Nurseries of Treason, and Rendezvous of Rebellion, 7 A^d first Parliament *James VII*, 12 A^d of the same, and in the 25th A^d of the same—— So that by all these Laws, and many other, these People you call *Whigs*, are *Rebels*, *Traitors*, and *Phanaticks*, and this is what you should have fill'd them, in the Abridgment you have given of the Original of a *Whig*, together with a List of their several Rebellions at *Penland Hills*, *Bothwell-Brige*, &c.

I give this at large, to do Justice to the Objector—— And I readily grant with the Objection, that in the Language of those Times, these People were call'd *Rebels*—— So in the Language of the *Jews*, *St. Paul's* Worshipping the God of his Fathers, was call'd *Heretic*, A^{cts} 24. 14—— But this is all answer'd in the Language of the Revolution, that these People only *Vigorously withstood Arbitrary Power*—— They unsuccessfully, *Poor Men!* and lost their Lives and Estates in the Attempt—— But our *London* Clergy join'd with the Nobility, Gentry, and Commonalty of both Kingdoms, did it afterwards Successfully and Effectually at the Time of the Revolution.

As to the *Whigs* being declar'd *Rebels* by the Laws of *Scotland*—— Let it be Enquir'd by what Laws? And what Princes?—— By the same Laws, and the same Arbitrary Power, which prevailing over them, we were Successfully withstood—— And for the Exorbitances of which, these A^{cts} are repeal'd, the Forfeitures of Estates

taken off, the Attainders of Blood restor'd, and the King that Exercis'd that Power Depos'd.

These Things, I think, effectually take off the Attainder of the Word *Whig*, and remove from it the Reproach of *REBEL*; but a *Whig* was one, that always *Vigorously withstood Arbitrary Power*, just as our *English* Clergy say they did, and a *Whig* is one, that ever will do so—— All the Arbitrary Tyrannizing Princes that shall ever Reign in this Island, may depend upon it, and ought to expect it—— The practise of the *Whigs* has always been to do so; 'tis justify'd by our Laws, and by the Laws of Nature, and the Clergy of the Church of *England* have now own'd and recogniz'd the practise—— Acknowledg'd they have done it, and attested it to be their Principle to do it again.

From hence, I think it is no wrong done to them, to call them all *Whigs*—— Since as I own, the *Whigs* have all along practis'd the Doctrine of *Resistance*, so I can bring you innumerable Writers on the *High-Church* Cause who call all the Resisters of Princes however Arbitrary, *Whigs*—— That Resistance is a *Whig* Principle—— Nay, some have taken upon them to say, it has been practis'd by none but *Whigs*——

It is therefore no more I, that Scandalize the Clergy of *London* with the Name of *Whig*, 'tis their own Words—— *Mr. Milbourn*, by setting his Hand to that Address, has sign'd himself a *Whig*, *EX ORE TUO*—— Let him but Revise his own Sermon, on the 30th of January, 1709, Entitled the *Measures of Resistance*—— He tells you, *he that Resists a Lawful Power, tho' Commanding what was sinful, that Man incurs the Penalty of Eternal Vengeance*, P. 8—— And in the Prosecution of this Argument he adds, *Tyrants as well as others, are God's Ministers, appointed by him to punish a Wretched People that has forgotten him*—— *Thy Business is not to Question thy Princes Religion, whether a Christian or a Heathen*, (or his Government) *whether be be a good or bad Governour*—— These are *Mr. Milbourn's* own Words, pag. 20, 21.

And yet the same Mr. *Milbourn* has Address'd the Queen among the *London Clergy*, owns himself to Thank God from the Bottom of his Heart, for the Legal Provisions made against *Popery*, that is. *Questioning the Religion of the Sovereign*, whether Papist or Protestant, for these Legal Provisions, are only for against *Popery*, as they exclude all Successors that are Popish—And boasts of being among those that Vigorously withstood Arbitrary Power, and kisses the Queen's Hand with a promise, or rather Threatning in his Mouth, that WHOEVER Meditates the return of either *Popery*, or Arbitrary Power, he will Vigorously withstand (Resist) him, as before.

Compare this, which I am sure is no strain upon the Clergy's Address, with Mr. *Milbourn's* Sermon quoted before, Page 34.

It's a certain Truth, that even Wicked Princes carry on the Great Design of God in Governing the lower World, as effectually as others, and therefore I conclude, That supposing it True, that some Sovereign Princes do seem to Act contrary to the End of their Institution, Invade the Rights of their Subjects in an ARBITRARY WAR, and threaten the utter Ruin of that People, over whom God hath set them, yet it is neither possible for them to Effect any such Design, nor is it Lawful for their Subjects, on pretence of securing the publick Happiness, and the happiness of their Posterity—Violently to Resist (i. e. Vigorously to withstand) such Governments.

Mr. *Milbourn* after this, in his 47th and 48th Pages, Concludes by telling you, it was the black-Mouth'd Adversary of King *Charles II.* that call'd him a Tyrant—That it was the Doctrine of Resistance that brought King *Cha. I.* to the Block—And he says true—

Mr. *Milbourn* in his Address, says the Clergy of *London* Vigorously withstood his son *James II.*—That is, withstood Arbitrary Power in his Hand, and still they say true—And he with them says, in Contradiction to all he has Preach'd, as above, he will do it again, by what MEANS SO-EVER (That is I presume without straining the Sense) be it by Lawful Sovereigns, or any one else whatsoever.

The Sum of my Argument is short, Resisting or withstanding of Arbitrary Principles, being a *Whig* Principle, denominates all them to be *Whigs* who profess it.

The Clergy of *London*, have fairly and fully profess'd the Principle of withstanding Arbitrary Princes, in their late most Dutiful and Loyal Address.

Ergo—

Ergo, what says an honest Fellow, that does not understand what *Ergo* means—*Ergo* all the Clergy in *London*, except Mr. *Hoadly* and a few more, are turn'd *Whigs*.

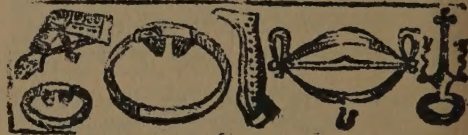
Joyful be their Hearts, that believe their Conversion is real—For my part, I would Congratulate their return to their Understanding, were it not that my Opinion is more to their Advantage; I am satisfy'd the same genuine Honesty was always in them, and all that any of them has done or said to the contrary, has been a Politick Force upon their Consciences, to bring about private Ends, and carry on a Party Game, but at the bottom we are all of a Mind; and let any Prince that hereafter shall Reign, trust them at his Peril, *Memento Mori*, King *James* is a Beacon upon that Rock, or a Buoy upon that Shelf, where he split and Shipwreck'd all his Fortunes: Then it was their Fault—If any Man believes them again, it will be his own Fault.

*If ever Prince should after his pretend,
On Non-Resisting Zealots to depend;
Tho' the first Fraud might well trepan the Crown,
When e're they'r trick'd again the Fault's their own:
If they from Pulpit Loyalty expect,
That Men should not their Property Protect;
But from those Notions venture to oppress,
Presuming we should Act, as we profess;
Who e're he be, shall on this Fraud Advance,
Let him to Bedlam go, and not to France.*

Jure Divino Lib. IV. Fol. 9.

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